

**TOWN OF GRAND RAPIDS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 11, 2008**

Meeting Place: Grand Rapids Municipal Building, 2410 48th Street South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Present: Chairman Don Bohn, Supervisors Arne Nystrom, Jeanne Fehrman, Bill Clendenning, and Edward Hellner; Treasurer Kristine Ginter, Clerk Judy McLellan, Building Inspector Lorelei Fuehrer, Fire Chief Scott Bernette and Police Chief Dave Lewandowski.

Absent:

Excused:

NOTE: () indicates agenda item of when Board member joined the meeting.

Notices of the meeting were legally posted at The Store in Kellner, the Grand Rapids Garage and the Grand Rapids Municipal Building, and published in the Daily Tribune.

The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Don Bohn.

1. **Approve minutes of October 23 & 28, 2008 Town Board Meetings.** Motion (Hellner/Fehrman) approve minutes as presented. Motion carried.
2. **Application of Elliot Havitz, 2741 37th St. N for a C.U.P. for a second 30' X 24' garage on 3.03 residentially zoned acres. .** Motion (Clendenning/Hellner) to approve the application for a C.U.P. as recommended. Motion carried
3. **Approval/Denial of 2009 contract with Security Health Plan for employees' medical insurance.** Motion (Nystrom/Fehramn) to approve contract as presented. Motion carried
4. **Approval/Denia of Chief Lewandowski attending training on Domestic Violence Jan 20, 2009.** Motion (Fehrman/Hellner) to approve Chief Lewandowski attending training on Domestic Violence on Jan 20, 2009. Motion carried.
5. **Approval/Denial of giving donation to Public Access Broadcasting.** Motion (Nystrom/Fehrman) to approve the donation of \$1000 to Public Access Broadcasting for year 2009. Motion carried with Supervisor Clendenning voting no.
6. **Approval/Denial of South Wood County Airport 2009 Budget.** Supervisor Nystrom stated that with the City of Nekoosa joining the airport commission the cost is slightly lower then previously stated. Total cost of 2009 for the Town of Grand Rapids will be \$24,448. Motion (Nystrom/Clendenning) to approve the South Wood County Airport 2009 Budget as presented. Motion carried.
7. **Discussion/Approval/Denial of comparative pricing on purchase of pickup truck.** Supervisor Hellner gave overview on prices received from Mark Motors, Brostrom-Kickert, Rapids Ford and Ironside GMC. Motion (Clendenning/Nystrom) to purchase 2008 Dodge Pickup as quoted from Mark Motors. Motion carried.
8. **Discussion on amending Ordinance 10 – Regulating Speed Limits on areas of Helke Rd and 32nd St.** Chief Lewandowski stated that he has done speed checks on Helke Rd between Wazeecha and 64th St. over the past 6 months. The area is currently posted at 35 mph. He feels that this stretch of road would be better served at 25 mph. Motion (Clendenning/Fehrman) to direct the clerk to prepare resolution to amend Ordinance 10 to reflect the lowering of the speed limit on Helke Rd. from Wazeecha Ave to 64th St. from 35 mph to 25 mph. Motion carried. Chairman Bohn stated that the State mandated that the speed limit be reduced from 35 mph to 25 mph on the newly constructed area of 32nd St. from Saratoga to Washington. Some of the 25 mph signs are already up but our ordinance needed to be amended. Motion (Hellner/Fehrman) to direct the clerk to prepare a resolution to amend Ordinance 10 to reflect the lowering of the speed limit on 32nd St. between Saratoga and Washington form 35 mph to 25 mph. Motion carried.
9. **Discussion of amending Ordinance 35-Regulating Waterskiing on Lake Wazeecha.** Chief Lewandowski stated that he wished to amend Ordinance 35 to include adopting the State Statue pertaining to Waterskiing on lakes. Motion (Nystrom/Fehrman) to direct the clerk to prepare draft of amended ordinance for review by board. Motion carried.

- 10. Discussion of amending Ordinance 24-Building Code to add conditions and requirements needed to issue a second new dwelling building permit for same location.** Building Inspector Lorelei Fuehrer stated that she wished to add conditions and requirement to the ordinance to address situations where a new dwelling was not completed in the two year period allowed for a building permit. Motion (Fehrman/Nystrom) to approve the Building Inspector to proceed with drafting new wording to address issuing a second new dwelling building permit with new requirement and conditions to be reviewed by board and town's attorney. Motion carried.
- 11. Discussion of adding new ordinance pertaining to the Harboring of Minor Runaways.** Chief Lewandowski stated that the town currently does not have an Ordinance in which someone could be charged for knowingly harboring a minor runaway. He wished the board to consider adopting one. Motion (Hellner/Clendenning) to direct clerk to prepare formal ordinance and resolution to reflect needs of Police Department regarding the Harboring of Minor Runaways. Motion carried.
- 12. Discussion/Approval/Denial of Building Inspector doing inspections for lending institutes on pending home sales.** Building Inspector Fuehrer stated that she had two calls from lending institutes asking if she could do inspections on homes with pending sales. Supervisor Hellner stated that he had checked with a couple of banks and was told they were not aware of any reason that a state certified building inspector would need to be used. Chairman Bohn stated that if someone was requesting this service the town would follow the normal procedure to bill the person/business on a hourly basis for the Building Inspectors time. Clerk will determine an hourly rate based on wages and fringe benefits. Inspections will be billed by invoice by clerk.
- 13. Approval of October disbursement vouchers.** No questions from board members.
- 14. Approval/Denial of Operators License Applications.** No applications.
- 15. Monthly reports from committees and departments:**
 - **Police Department:** Chief Lewandowski reported that the department handled 347 calls for service the month of October. The State Track Meet was held at The Ridges on Nov 1. Some issues with parking for the event occurred and will be addressed for next year. Chief Lewandowski stated that the department have been investigating putting together a shooting range on the town's property on 48th St. At this point they have decided to only pursue the development of the range for the officers use. This will result in a possible savings to the town in overtime by allowing the officers to practice while on duty and still remain in the town boundaries able to respond to calls. Per the town's ordinance this will need to be addressed through the Planning Commission. Officer Andy Simon will be heading up the Grand Rapids Police Auxiliary. Currently the Auxiliary has three members to begin organizing. Chief Lewandowski is working on a grant for approximately \$7000 for equipment.
 - **Fire Department:** Chief Bernette reported that since last report they have responded to 11 calls. 1 grass/brush, 2 natural gas leaks, 1 downed power line, 1 CO call, 1 vehicle accident, 1 mutual aid, 1 ambulance assist, 2 RIT calls. Training for the month will be 11/5- EMS training on proper spinal emobilization skills, 11/17- Joint search/rescue with Biron and 11/24 – Full response drill. The First Responder Unit is still waiting to hear from the state on application.
 - **Safety:** No lost time work injuries. Next meeting November 19th at 8:00 a.m.
 - **Public Works:** Chairman Bohn said the crew is ready for the winter weather. 32nd St is complete and open for traffic. The speed limit is now 25 mph from Saratoga to Washington. Chairman Bohn stated that the availability of salt is low this year and the price is high. The town may not be able to use as much straight salt as in other years, he urges the town's residents to drive with care.
 - **Crime Stoppers:** Supervisor Nystrom reported that Crime Stoppers currently have \$9,619.08 available for paying out for tips received. He urges everyone to report any tips that they may have on criminal activity.
 - **Airport Commission:** Supervisor Nystrom reported that the Airport as of September 30th has \$26,000 left in the 2008 budget. Hopefully we do not get a lot of snow the remainder of the year and the budget should be fine. The Airport currently has \$256,000 in retained earnings for future projects.

- **Planning and Zoning:** Supervisor Fehrman stated that there seems to be some misconceptions about the Police departments use of the town's land for a shooting range and urges people with questions or concerns to please contact Chief Lewandowski or an officer.
- **Building Inspector:** Building Inspector Lorelei Fuehrer reported that there have been two new home building permits issued and another one very probable for next week.
- **Recycling & Garbage:** No new information still working on the container issue.

16. Other Public Input

None

- 17.** The Grand Rapids Town Board will move into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1) (c) “considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility,” and Wis. Stat. § 19.85 (1) (e) “deliberating or negotiating whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require closed session,” to discuss pending contract negotiations and strategy regarding the pending contracts of Police Chief and Treasurer. Motion (Nystrom/Hellner) to move into closed session. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried. In closed session 7:40 p.m.

Motion (Hellner/Fehrman) to move into open session. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried. In open session 7:56 p.m.

Motion (Nystrom/Hellner) to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 7:57 p.m.

Minutes subject to board approval.

Respectfully submitted and approved
this _____ day of _____, 2008

Judy McLellan
Town Clerk